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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/738,686 .	12/15/2000	Douglas E. Crafts	42390P10312	9954	
7	7590 02/05/2003				
Charles K. Young BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP Seventh Floor			EXAM	EXAMINER	
			LE, THAN	LE, THANH TAM T	
12400 Wilshite Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER		
2001111.80000,	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		2839		

DATE MAILED: 02/05/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

		Application No.	Applicant(s)
	•	09/738,686	CRAFTS, DOUGLAS E.
Office Action Summary		Examiner	Art Unit
		Thanh-Tam T. Le	2839
Period fo	The MAILING DATE of this communication app or Reply	ears on the cover sheet with the	correspondence address
FHE II - Exter after - If the - If NO - Failui - Any re	ORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Insions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period were to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, eply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing of patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	66(a). In no event, however, may a reply be ti within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) da ill apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from	mely filed ys will be considered timely. n the mailing date of this communication.
1)🖂	Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 J	anuary 2003 .	
2a)⊠		s action is non-final.	
3)□ Dispositio	Since this application is in condition for allowa closed in accordance with the practice under E on of Claims	nce except for formal matters in	rosecution as to the merits is 453 O.G. 213.
4)🖂	Claim(s) <u>1 and 3-12, 14-17</u> is/are pending in th	e application.	
4	4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdraw	n from consideration.	
	Claim(s) is/are allowed.		
	Claim(s) <u>1,<i>3-12 and 14-17</i> is/are rejected</u> .		
	Claim(s) is/are objected to.		
	Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or	election requirement	
Application	on Papers	or out of the first	
9) 🗌 T	he specification is objected to by the Examiner.		
10)∐ T	he drawing(s) filed on is/are: a)☐ accept	ed or b) objected to by the Exa	miner.
	Applicant may not request that any objection to the	drawing(s) be held in abeyance. So	ee 37 CFR 1 85(a)
11) 🔲 T	he proposed drawing correction filed oni	is: a) approved b) disappro	Ved by the Examiner
	If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply	y to this Office action.	· , ····
12)∏ T	he oath or declaration is objected to by the Exal	miner.	
Priority ur	nder 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120		
13) 🗌 🛚 A	Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign p	priority under 35 U.S.C. & 119(a))-(d) or (f)
a)[_	All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:	, 31 3.00.0. 3 1 10(u)	, (d) of (i).
1	. Certified copies of the priority documents	have been received	
2	Certified copies of the priority documents I		an No
	Copies of the certified copies of the priority application from the International Bure the attached detailed Office action for a list of	y documents have been receive	d in this National Stage
14)[] Ac	knowledgment is made of a claim for domostic	crite certified copies not received	d.
a) (knowledgment is made of a claim for domestic	sional application has been rece	aived
Attachment(s	knowledgment is made of a claim for domestic	priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120	and/or 121.
1) Notice (2) Notice (of References Cited (PTO-892) of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) tion Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>8</u> .	4) Interview Summary 5) Notice of Informal P 6) Other:	(PTO-413) Paper No(s) atent Application (PTO-152)
S. Patent and Trad TO-326 (Rev.	0.4.043	on Summary	Part of Paper No. 10

Application/Control Number: 09/738,686

Art Unit: 2839

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 2. Claims 1, 3-12 and 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's submitted prior art (APA) in view of Kanda et al. (5,721,798).

Regarding claims 1, 6 and 12, APA, figures 1-3, discloses a device comprising:

- a fiber optic bundle (10) having a termination block (40); and
- an array waveguide (42) having channels (45) internally. The array waveguide positioned adjacent to the terminal block. The termination block comprises two retainers (16, 18) having etched grooves. The termination block and the array waveguide are bonded together by an epoxy (50)

APA discloses the instant claimed invention as described above except for two pins each partially extending into both the termination block and the array waveguide.

Kanda et al., figure 2, discloses two guide pins (6) are inserted into holes (4, 11) of a waveguide device (30) and a connector (5) which read on two pins each partially extending into both the termination block and the array waveguide. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify APA to have two guide pins connect between the waveguide device and the connector

Application/Control Number: 09/738,686

Art Unit: 2839

as taught by Kanda et al., in order to easy and highly reproducible (Kanda et al.'s abstract).

Regarding claim 3, it is noted that Kanda et al., figure 2, discloses the array waveguide has two holes (11) formed by an etch process.

Regarding claims 4-5, 7-11 and 14-15, APA, figure 3, discloses a gel (50) dispensed between the termination block and the array waveguide. The gel has an index of refraction substantially similar to that of the channels of the array waveguide.

3. Claims 16-17 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA and Kanda et al. as applied to claims 6 and 12 above, and further in view of Cannon, Jr. et al. (4,973,127).

APA and Kanda disclose the instant claimed invention as described above except for the multiple holes are filled by optical fibers except for the holes with the pins inserted in them.

Cannon, Jr. et al., figure 5, disclose an optical connector having an array of fiber grooves (60a-71a) and pin grooves (80a, 81a) which read on the multiple holes are filled by optical fibers except for the holes with the pins inserted in them. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify APA and Kanda to have the array of fiber grooves and pin grooves as taught by Cannon, Jr. et al., in order to hold and to align the connectors with each other.

Art Unit: 2839

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 1/7/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The Applicant states "Applicant submits it would not have been obvious to combine a method of permanently coupling devices (APA) with a method of temporarily coupling two devices (Kanda et al.)".

The Examiner disagrees. The **permanently coupling** or **removably connecting** between a fiber optic bundle and an array waveguide not cites in claims 1,

6 and 12. Therefore, APA and Kanda et al. are proper combination.

Claim 3 has been rejected under Kanda et al.' reference.

Conclusion

5. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh-Tam T. Le whose telephone number is (703) 306-5711. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached on (703) 308-2710. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.

TL. January 17, 2003

LYNN FIELD
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